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EXX

SECRET

NOV 11 1963

TO: The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S
FROM: EXX - William E. Tyler
SUBJECT: U.S. November 12 Autobahn Convoy

1. A US convoy consisting of 13 vehicles and 28 passengers is scheduled to travel from Berlin to the Federal Republic at 0230 hours (Washington time) November 12.

2. The UK and French Commandants have recommended to their authorities that, if the US convoy is detained, they should despatch identical convoys from Berlin.

3. FREE STYLE (the LIVE OAK company sized probe) is assembled near Marienborn, at the west end of the autobahn.

4. We have prepared the attached talking points for your possible use with Dobrynin, presumably early in the piece, which indicate the non-military countermeasures we have prepared.

5. In addition, a Soviet ship is due to transit the Panama Canal on November 13 or 14 and JCS is preparing a study related to possible close surface and aerial surveillance and harassment of Soviet shipping off the North American east coast.

6. Mr. Ausland and I are available to answer any questions. You can contact us through the Operations Center.

RTT:JCAusland

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1. Soviet military authorities have once again detained a US convey traveling between Berlin and the Federal Republic.
2. This is the third time this has happened in the past month.
3. In its note of November 6, the US Government requested "the Soviet Government immediately to instruct its military authorities in Germany to bring to an end, once and for all, these hindrances."
4. Both in our note and in my conversations with you, we have also made it clear that "The United States Government will hold the Soviet Government responsible for all consequences of the failure to comply with this request."
5. Since the Soviet Government does not appear to have heeded our request, I am forced reluctantly to come to the conclusion that it does not properly evaluate the efforts of the United States to bridge the differences between our Governments.
6. I have, therefore, instructed that the following steps be taken:
 - a. The Department of State has instructed the American Embassy in Moscow to cancel the visas issued to the group of tourists headed by Dr. Slobin. (Contingent on decision whether to do this, to be taken prior to your meeting with Dobrynin Tuesday morning.)
 - b. I have asked Mr. Malaby to cancel his forthcoming trip to Moscow in connection with the Civil Aviation Agreement.
 - c. The Department of State has instructed Embassy Moscow to suspend negotiations on the Consular Convention.
 - d. It has also instructed Embassy Moscow to postpone the start of negotiations for a new US-Soviet Exchange Agreement.
7. I regret that these steps have become necessary, since I had hoped that the expectations for better relations would bear fruit.
8. I feel sure that I need not remind you that this list does not cover all the matters under discussion between our two governments.
9. I would appreciate your communicating immediately with Moscow, with a view to the processing of the US convey under established procedures, before our relations have suffered an even greater set-back than they have already.

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